

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 15, 20, 21, and 24 as follows:

15. (once amended) An in-mold coating method of preparing a plastic part with a clear-coat surface, the method comprising:

providing a mold having a mold surface having a predetermined degree of finish;

heating the mold to a temperature between approximately 40 degrees Celsius and approximately 95 degrees Celsius;

providing an unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture;

providing an unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture;

mixing the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and the unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture to form a clear-coat mixture;

spraying the clear-coat mixture onto the heated mold surface, the clear-coat mixture having an open time on the heated mold surface;

providing a pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture;

providing a fourth-reactant/solvent mixture;

mixing the pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture and the fourth-reactant/solvent mixture to form a pigmented mixture;

spraying the pigmented mixture, during the open time of the clear-coat mixture, onto the clear-coat mixture previously sprayed onto the heated mold surface;

applying, over the sprayed pigmented mixture, a substrate-forming material, so as to create an uncured preform; and

allowing the preform to cure so as to form a substrate having a clear-coat surface.

20. (once amended) The method according to claim 19, further comprising

(a) mixing the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and the unpigmented second-reactant solvent mixture at a volume ratio substantially between 1.5:1 and 3.0:1, respectively, to form a combined mixture of unpigmented first-reactant/solvent

mixture and unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture having a total volume fraction of solids substantially in the range between 0.30 and 0.60; and

(b) mixing the pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture and the pigmented fourth-reactant solvent mixture at a volume ratio substantially between 1.5:1 and 3.0:1, respectively, to form a combined mixture of pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture and pigmented fourth-reactant/solvent mixture having a total volume fraction of solids substantially between 0.30 and 0.60.

A2 21. (once amended) An in-mold coating method of preparing a plastic part with a clear-coat surface, the method comprising:

providing a mold having a mold surface having a predetermined degree of finish;

heating the mold to a temperature between approximately 40 degrees Celsius and approximately 95 degrees Celsius;

providing an unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture;

providing an unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture;

mixing the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and the unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture to form a clear-coat mixture;

spraying the clear-coat mixture onto the heated mold surface, the clear-coat mixture having an open time on the heated mold surface;

applying, over the sprayed unpigmented mixture, during the open time of the clear-coat mixture, a substrate-forming material, so as to create an uncured preform; and

allowing the preform to cure so as to form a substrate having a clear-coat surface.

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A3 24. (once amended) The method according to claim 23, further comprising mixing the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and the unpigmented second-reactant solvent mixture at a volume ratio substantially between 1.5:1 and 3.0:1, respectively, to form a combined mixture of unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and

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unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture having a total volume fraction of solids substantially in the range between 0.30 and 0.60.

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Please add claims 27-30 as follows:

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27. The method according to claim 20, wherein the amount of solvent in the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture is reduced relative to the amount of solvent in the unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture; and the amount of solvent in the pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture is reduced relative to the amount of solvent in the pigmented fourth-reactant/solvent mixture.

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28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the combined mixture of unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture is sprayed onto the heated mold surface in an amount to form a coating layer thickness substantially between 1.5 to 2.0 mils DFT; and the combined mixture of pigmented third-reactant/solvent mixture and pigmented fourth-reactant/solvent mixture is sprayed onto the sprayed combined mixture of unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture in an amount to form a coating layer thickness substantially between 1.5 to 2.0 mils DFT.

29. The method according to claim 24, wherein the amount of solvent in the unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture is reduced relative to the amount of solvent in the unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture.

30. The method according to claim 29, wherein the combined mixture of unpigmented first-reactant/solvent mixture and unpigmented second-reactant/solvent mixture are sprayed onto the heated mold surface in an amount to form a coating layer thickness substantially between 1.5 to 2.0 mils DFT.

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